## BIOPROSTHESES WITH ASSOCIATED GROWTH FACTORS Abstract of the Disclosure

A polypeptide growth factor is associated with a substrate to promote population of the substrate with endothelial cells. The substrate preferably is fixed tissue. Bioprostheses incorporate the growth factor treated tissue. Preferred polypeptide growth factors include VEGF. VEGF treated tissue can be populated with endothelial cells in vitro and/or in vivo. The VEGF can be associated with the substrate by direct contact with a VEGF solution, application of the VEGF with an adhesive as a coating to the substrate, or chemical binding of the VEGF to the substrate with or without an intervening linker molecule.